IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of

Dhaval N. Shah

Serial No. Unassigned

Filed: June *15*, 2001

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DETERMINING
A PREFERRED MIRRORED SERVICE IN A
NETWORK BY EVALUATING A BORDER
GATEWAY PROTOCOL

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

Docket No. CISCP050C1

June *15*, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the application on the merits, please amend the application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-20.

Please add the following claims:

21.   A system for selecting a mirrored service in a network environment, the system comprising:

a comparor configured to receive a first border gateway protocol attribute related to a first mirrored service and a second border gateway protocol attribute related to a second mirrored service, said first mirrored service and said second mirrored service in a same autonomous system, said comparor configured to compare the first border gateway protocol attribute with the second border gateway protocol attribute, resulting in a selected attribute, wherein the selected attribute meets a predetermined criteria, and wherein a mirrored service associated with the selected attribute is selected, wherein the first border gateway protocol attribute is a first multi-exit discriminator (MED); and

a distributed director coupled with the first and second protocol agents to compare the first border gateway protocol attribute with the second border gateway protocol attribute, resulting in a selected attribute, wherein the selected attribute meets a predetermined criteria, and wherein a mirrored service associated with the selected attribute is selected.

22.   The system of claim 21, wherein the second border gateway protocol attribute is a second multi-exit discriminator.

23.   The system of claim 22, wherein the predetermined criteria is a smaller one of the first multi-exit discriminator (MED) and the second multi-exit discriminator (MED).

24.   A system for selecting a mirrored service in a network environment, the system comprising:

a comparor configured to receive a first border gateway protocol attribute related to a first mirrored service and a second border gateway protocol attribute related to a second mirrored service, said first mirrored service and said second mirrored service in a same autonomous system, said comparor configured to compare the first border gateway protocol attribute with the second border gateway protocol attribute, resulting in a selected attribute, wherein the selected attribute meets a predetermined criteria, and wherein a mirrored service associated with the selected attribute is selected, wherein the first border gateway protocol attribute is a community attribute; and

a distributed director coupled with the first and second protocol agents to compare the first border gateway protocol attribute with the second border gateway protocol attribute, resulting in a selected attribute, wherein the selected attribute meets a predetermined criteria, and wherein a mirrored service associated with the selected attribute is selected.

25.   The method of claim 24, wherein the predetermined criteria is a predetermined community attribute.

CLEAN COPY OF PENDING CLAIMS

Claims 21- 25 are pending.

21.   A system for selecting a mirrored service in a network environment, the system comprising:

a comparor configured to receive a first border gateway protocol attribute related to a first mirrored service and a second border gateway protocol attribute related to a second mirrored service, said first mirrored service and said second mirrored service in a same autonomous system, said comparor configured to compare the first border gateway protocol attribute with the second border gateway protocol attribute, resulting in a selected attribute, wherein the selected attribute meets a predetermined criteria, and wherein a mirrored service associated with the selected attribute is selected, wherein the first border gateway protocol attribute is a first multi-exit discriminator (MED); and

a distributed director coupled with the first and second protocol agents to compare the first border gateway protocol attribute with the second border gateway protocol attribute, resulting in a selected attribute, wherein the selected attribute meets a predetermined criteria, and wherein a mirrored service associated with the selected attribute is selected.

22.   The system of claim 21, wherein the second border gateway protocol attribute is a second multi-exit discriminator.

23.   The system of claim 22, wherein the predetermined criteria is a smaller one of the first multi-exit discriminator (MED) and the second multi-exit discriminator (MED).

24.   A system for selecting a mirrored service in a network environment, the system comprising:

a comparor configured to receive a first border gateway protocol attribute related to a first mirrored service and a second border gateway protocol attribute related to a second mirrored service, said first mirrored service and said second mirrored service in a same autonomous system, said comparor configured to compare the first border gateway protocol attribute with the second border gateway protocol attribute, resulting in a selected attribute, wherein the selected attribute meets a predetermined criteria, and wherein a mirrored service associated with the selected attribute is selected, wherein the first border gateway protocol attribute is a community attribute; and
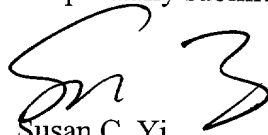
a distributed director coupled with the first and second protocol agents to compare the first border gateway protocol attribute with the second border gateway protocol attribute, resulting in a selected attribute, wherein the selected attribute meets a predetermined criteria, and wherein a mirrored service associated with the selected attribute is selected.

25.   The method of claim 24, wherein the predetermined criteria is a predetermined community attribute.

REMARKS

Consideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested. If at any time the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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